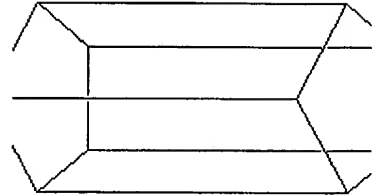


prism

prism (prɪzəm) *noun*

1. A solid figure whose bases or ends have the same size and shape and are parallel to one another, and each of whose sides is a parallelogram.
2. A transparent body of this form, often of glass and usually with triangular ends, used for separating white light passed through it into a spectrum or for reflecting beams of light.



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3. A cut-glass object, such as a pendant of a chandelier.
4. A crystal form consisting of three or more similar faces parallel to a single axis.
5. A medium that misrepresents whatever is seen through it.

[Late Latin *prisma*, from Greek *prisma*, thing sawed off, prism, from *priein*, *prizein*, to saw.]

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pris·mat·ic

pris·mat·ic (priz-măt-ĭk) also **pris·mat·i·cal** (-ĭkəl) *adjective*

1. Of, relating to, resembling, or being a prism.
2. Formed by refraction of light through a prism. Used of a spectrum of light.
3. Brilliantly colored; iridescent.

[Greek *prisma*, *prismat-*, prism. See prism + -ic.]

— **pris·mat'·i·cal·ly** *adverb*

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